



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

| APPLICATION NO. | FILING DATE | FIRST NAMED INVENTOR | ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. | CONFIRMATION NO. |
|---|-------------|----------------------|------------------------------|------------------------|
| 10/542,221 | 03/06/2006 | Kayo Sugimoto | SONYJP 3.3-357 | 3460 |
| 530 7590 10/27/2010 LERNER, DAVID, LITTENBERG, KRUMHOLZ & MENTLIK 600 SOUTH AVENUE WEST WESTFIELD, NJ 07090 | | | EXAMINER RODRIGUEZ, YANET | |
| | | | ART UNIT 2452 | PAPER NUMBER |
| | | | MAIL DATE 10/27/2010 | DELIVERY MODE PAPER |

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/542,221

Applicant(s)

SUGIMOTO ET AL.

Examiner

YANET RODRIGUEZ

Art Unit

2452

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 28 July 2010.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-4 and 6-14 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-4, 6-14 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SI/22)
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date: _____
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
- 6) ☐ Other: _____
- Paper No(s)/Mail Date: _____

DETAILED ACTION

1. The references U.S. Patent Number 6,064,380 to Swenson et al., U.S. Patent Number 6,868,225 B1 to Brown et al. and Publication No.: US 20003/0122966 A1 to Markman et al. were cited in the previous office action.

Priority

1. Should applicant desire to obtain the benefit of foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. 119(a)-(d) prior to declaration of an interference, a certified English translation of the foreign application must be submitted in reply to this action. 37 CFR 41.154(b) and 41.202(e).

Failure to provide a certified translation may result in no benefit being accorded for the non-English application.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

1. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

2. **Claims 1-4, 6-14 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent Number 6,064,380 to Swenson et al. [hereinafter Swenson] in view of U.S. Patent Number 6,868,225 B1 to Brown et al. [hereinafter Brown], Publication No.: US 20003/0122966 A1 to Markman et al. [hereinafter Markman] and Patent No.: US 7,484,234 B1 to Heaton et al. [hereinafter Heaton].**

1. Regarding claims 1, 2, 3, 7 and 8, Swenson discloses a communications system, comprising:

a plurality of information processing apparatus [column 2, lines 62-all and column 3, line 1; column 1, lines 11-15]; and

an information management apparatus [column 4, lines 65-all and column 5, lines 1-7, where the server manages the content provided to the user] operable to manage playing positions of contents [column 4, lines 62-all and column 5, lines 1-7; column 5, lines 46-51, where the playing position may be determined in terms of time position; [column 2, lines 28-32], where the system manages where the user would like to play the video or multimedia file the next time the access the file];

each of aid information processing apparatus [column 2, lines 62-all and column 3, line 1, column 1, lines 11-15] including:

playing means for playing content provided via a network [column 2, lines 28-32];

first request means for requesting [column 4, lines 65-all and column 5, lines 1-7, where the user requested for the storing of the position or the time stamp of the video or multimedia file] that said information management apparatus [column 4, lines 65-all and column 5, lines 1-7, where the server manages the content provided to the user] store a time stamp [column 5, lines 44-51, where the position may be determined in terms of time position] in association with predetermined identification information [column 1, lines 19-21,

where the user needs to login before he or she can obtain access to the services provided by the server], in response to an instruction that said time stamp representing a playing position of said content at that moment be stored [column 4, lines 62-all and column 5, lines 1-7, where while the content is being played the user requests for the content to be paused to continue at a later time and column 5, lines 46-51, where the playing position may be determined in terms of time position]; and

second request means for transmitting said identification information [column 1, lines 19-21, where the user needs to login before he or she can obtain access to the services provided by the server and the computer transmits the identification information] to said information management apparatus [column 4, lines 65-all and column 5, lines 1-7, where the server manages the content provided to the user] and for requesting the playing of said content from said playing position represented by said time stamp [column 2, lines 28-32, where the user requests to play the video or multimedia file from the saved playing position; column 5, lines 46-51, where the playing position may be determined in terms of time position], wherein

said identification information includes information allotted to each user [column 1, lines 19-21, where the user needs to login before he or she can obtain access to the services provided by the server; and the server will have the identification information of the user in order for them to login], and

said playing means is operable to play said content from said playing position represented by said time stamp in accordance with the request by said second request means [column 2, lines 28-32, where the user requests to play the video or multimedia file from the saved playing position; column 5, lines 46-51, where the playing position may be determined in terms of time position]; and

said information management apparatus [column 4, lines 65-all and column 5, lines 1-7, where the server manages the content provided to the user] including:

management means for managing the provision of said content to a respective information processing apparatus via said network [column 4, lines 65-all and column 5, lines 1-7, where the server supervises and provides the content to the user; column 1, lines 9-19, where the server manages the content over the network]; and

storing means for storing said time stamp [column 5, lines 44-46, column 5, lines 46-51, where the position may be determined in terms of time position] in association with said identification information [column 1, lines 19-21, where the user needs to login before he or she can obtain access to the services provided by the server],

wherein said management means is operable to manage the provision of said content [column 4, lines 65-all and column 5, lines 1-7, where the server supervises and provides the content to the user] from said playing position represented by said time stamp [column 4, lines 62-all and column 5, lines 1-7;

column 5, lines 46-51, where the playing position may be determined in terms of time position].

In addition Swenson discloses a request for the playing of said content from said playing position represented by said time stamp [column 2, lines 28-32, where the user requests to play the video or multimedia file from the saved playing position; column 5, lines 46-51, where the playing position may be determined in terms of time position], and wherein said playing position represented by said time stamp corresponds to a stopped position whereat at respective user requested that said content be stopped by use of a first one of said information processing apparatus[column 4, 65- all and column 5, lines 1-7, where the user requests to stop the content being played; column 5, lines 44-54, where a time stamp gets stored]. However, Swenson does not explicitly disclose the association of a time stamp with access right information, and that identification information is allotted to each user group. Also, Swenson does not explicitly disclose said access right information includes information indicating whether a confirmation, by user identification, of an access right to said playing position of the content represented by said time stamp is necessary, and wherein said management means is operable to determine, based on said associated access right information, whether a confirmation of an access right by user identification is necessary to provide said content from said playing position represented by said time stamp, responsive to a request from the information processing apparatus for the playing of said content from said playing position represented by said time stamp, and wherein said information processing apparatus is connectable via said network to another information processing apparatus,

wherein said content is playable from said stopped position based on said associated access right information by use of a second one of said information processing apparatus which is different from the first one thereof.

However, in a similar field of endeavor Brown discloses recording and storing bookmarks for stored program material in a computer environment. Specifically Brown teaches the association of a time stamp with access right information [column 15, lines 29-42 and lines 55-63; column 16, lines 20-24, where the bookmarks being associated with the remote control of a user ("a bookmark belongs to a certain encoded remote control"), the bookmark (time stamp) is associated with access right information since only the user with the remote control can display and activate the particular user's bookmarks] and that identification information is allotted to each user group [column 15, lines 64-all-column 16, lines 1-19] and wherein said content is playable from said stopped position based on said associated access right information [column 15, lines 29-42 and lines 55-63; column 16, lines 20-24, where the bookmarks being associated with the remote control of a user ("a bookmark belongs to a certain encoded remote control"), the bookmark (time stamp) is associated with access right information since only the user with the remote control can display and activate the particular user's bookmarks].

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify Swenson to have the association of a time stamp with access right information and that identification information is allotted to each user group and wherein said content is playable from said stopped position based on

said associated access right information for the purpose of setting bookmarks for different users and having parental controls.

However, Swenson and Brown do not explicitly disclose said access right information includes information indicating whether a confirmation, by user identification, of an access right to said playing position of the content represented by said time stamp is necessary, and wherein said management means is operable to determine, based on said associated access right information, whether a confirmation of an access right by user identification is necessary to provide said content from said playing position represented by said time stamp, responsive to a request for the playing of said content from said playing position represented by said time stamp; and wherein said information processing apparatus is connectable via said network to another information processing apparatus, and wherein said content is playable from said stopped position based on said associated access right information by use of a second one of said information processing apparatus which is different from the first one thereof.

However, in a similar field of endeavor Markman discloses creating, distributing and using meta data for customizing playback of media content programs. Specifically Markman teaches access right information including information indicating whether a confirmation, by user identification, of an access right to a playing position of a content represented by a time stamp is necessary [page 6, paragraphs 0087-0088; page 8, paragraph 0114; page 6, paragraph 0090, where some bookmarks could contain content for mature audiences, they would contain metadata with instructions for verifying access right (security code or PIN setup); page 6, paragraphs 00094 and

0090-0091, where some bookmarks would not require access right verification, for example: highlights from a football game], and wherein management means is operable to determine, based on associated access right information, whether a confirmation of an access right by user identification is necessary to provide said content from said playing position represented by said time stamp [page 6, paragraphs 0087-0088; page 8, paragraph 0114; page 6, paragraph 0090, where some bookmarks could contain content for mature audiences, they would contain metadata with instructions for verifying access right (security code or PIN setup); page 6, paragraphs 00094 and 0090-0091, where some bookmarks would not require access right verification, for example: highlights from a football game], responsive to a request for the playing of said content from said playing position represented by said time stamp [page 6, paragraph 0094; page 6, paragraphs 0087-0088; Figure 8].

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify Swenson to have said access right information includes information indicating whether a confirmation, by user identification, of an access right to said playing position of the content represented by said time stamp is necessary, and wherein said management means is operable to determine, based on said associated access right information, whether a confirmation of an access right by user identification is necessary to provide said content from said playing position represented by said time stamp, responsive to a request from the information processing apparatus for the playing of said content from said playing position represented by said time stamp for the purpose of providing when needed parental control to content that is bookmarked.

However, Swenson, Brown and Markman do not explicitly disclose wherein said information processing apparatus is connectable via said network to another information processing apparatus, and where the content is playable by use of a second one of said information processing apparatus which is different from the first one thereof.

However, in a similar field of endeavor Heaton discloses set-top control systems sharing access to another set-top control system. Specifically Heaton teaches wherein an information processing apparatus is connectable via a network to another information processing apparatus [column 11, lines 31-42; Figure 6; column 6, lines 54-61], and where content is playable by use of a second information processing apparatus which is different from a first one thereof [column 11, lines 31-42; Figure 6; column 6, lines 54-61].

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify Swenson to have wherein said information processing apparatus is connectable via said network to another information processing apparatus, and wherein said content is playable from said stopped position based on said associated access right information by use of a second one of said information processing apparatus which is different from the first one thereof for the purpose of having different devices that can control content and share the content and in that way not limiting the user to one device.

2. Regarding claim 4, Swenson, Brown, Markman and Heaton disclose everything claimed as above (see claim 3), in addition Swenson discloses wherein:

said first request means is operable to request that the information management apparatus stop the provision of said content and store said time stamp upon issuance of an instruction to stop the playing of said content [column 4, 65- all and column 5, lines 1-7, where the user requests to stop the content being played; column 5, lines 44-54, where a time stamp gets stored].

3. Regarding claim 6, Swenson, Brown , Markman and Heaton disclose everything claimed as above (see claim 3), in addition Swenson discloses, further comprising:

third request means for requesting that a viewing status information management apparatus [column 4, lines 65-all and column 5, lines 1-7, where the user requested for the storing of the position or the time stamp of the video or multimedia file; column 2, lines 62-all and column 3, line 1, where the request comes from an information processing apparatus] that manages viewing status information store viewing status information representing a viewing status of said content [column 5, lines 44-51, where the time of the position is stored representing the viewing status information of the content],

wherein said second request means is operable to request the playing of said content from said playing position represented by said time stamp in accordance with said viewing status of said content represented by said viewing status information [column 2, lines 28-32, where the user requests to play the video or multimedia file from the saved playing position; column 5, lines 46-51, where the playing position may be determined in terms of time position and the time is part of the viewing status information].

4. Regarding claim 9, Swenson discloses a system for processing information, comprising:

a processor operable to execute instructions [column 2, lines 62-all and column 3, line 1; and column 6, line 1-11, where the processor executes the instructions of the invention]; and

instructions [column 6, line 1-11, where the program code has the instructions] for carrying out an information processing method for use by an information processing apparatus [column 4, lines 65-all and column 5, lines 1-7, where the server supervises and provides the content to the user], the information processing method including:

playing content provided via a network [column 2, lines 28-32];

requesting [column 4, lines 65-all and column 5, lines 1-7, where the user requested for the storing of the position or the time stamp of the video or multimedia file] that an information management apparatus [column 4, lines 65-all and column 5, lines 1-7, where the server manages the content provided to the user] which manages playing positions of contents [column 4, lines 62-all and column 5, lines 1-7, where the server supervises and provides the content to the user; column 5, lines 46-51, where the playing position may be determined in terms of time position] store a time stamp [column 5, lines 44-46; column 5, lines 46-51, where the position may be determined in terms of time position] in association with predetermined identification information [column 1, lines 19-21, where the user needs to login before he or she can obtain access to the services provided by the server] during said playing step in response to an instruction to store said time stamp representing a playing position of said content at

that moment [column 4, lines 62-all and column 5, lines 1-7, where while the content is being played the user requests for the content to be paused to continue at a later time; [column 5, lines 46-51], where the playing position may be determined in terms of time position]; and

transmitting said identification information [column 1, lines 19-21, where the user needs to login before he or she can obtain access to the services provided by the server and the computer transmits the identification information] to the information management apparatus [column 4, lines 65-all and column 5, lines 1-7, where the server manages the content provided to the user] and requesting the playing of said content from said playing position represented by said time stamp [column 2, lines 28-32, where the user requests to play the video or multimedia file from the saved playing position; column 5, lines 46-51, where the playing position may be determined in terms of time position], said identification information including information allotted to each user [column 1, lines 19-21, where the user needs to login before he or she can obtain access to the services provided by the server; and the server will have the identification information of the user in order for them to login], and the playing step plays said content from said playing position represented by said time stamp in accordance with said step of requesting the playing [column 2, lines 28-32, where the user requests to play the video or multimedia file from the saved playing position; column 5, lines 46-51, where the playing position may be determined in terms of time position].

In addition Swenson discloses a request for the playing of said content from said playing position represented by said time stamp [column 2, lines 28-32, where the user

requests to play the video or multimedia file from the saved playing position; column 5, lines 46-51, where the playing position may be determined in terms of time position] and wherein said playing position represented by said time stamp corresponds to a stopped position whereat at respective user requested that said content be stopped by use of said information processing apparatus[column 4, 65- all and column 5, lines 1-7, where the user requests to stop the content being played; column 5, lines 44-54, where a time stamp gets stored]. However, Swenson does not explicitly disclose the association of a time stamp with access right information and that identification information is allotted to each user group. Also, Swenson does not explicitly disclose said access right information including information indicating whether a confirmation, by user identification, of an access right to said playing position of the content represented by said time stamp is necessary, and wherein the playing step determines, based on said associated access right information, whether a confirmation of an access right by user identification is necessary to play said content from said playing position represented by said time stamp, responsive to a request for the playing of said content from said playing position represented by said time stamp and wherein said information processing apparatus is connectable via said network to another information processing apparatus, and wherein said content is playable from said stopped position based on said associated access right information by use of the another information processing apparatus which is different from said information processing apparatus. However, in a similar field of endeavor Brown discloses recording and storing bookmarks for stored program material in a computer environment. Specifically Brown

teaches the association of a time stamp with access right information [column 15, lines 29-42 and lines 55-63; column 16, lines 20-24, where the bookmarks being associated with the remote control of a user ("a bookmark belongs to a certain encoded remote control"), the bookmark (time stamp) is associated with access right information since only the user with the remote control can display and activate the particular user's bookmarks] and that identification information is allotted to each user group [column 15, lines 64-all-column 16, lines 1-19] and wherein said content is playable from said stopped position based on said associated access right information [column 15, lines 29-42 and lines 55-63; column 16, lines 20-24, where the bookmarks being associated with the remote control of a user ("a bookmark belongs to a certain encoded remote control"), the bookmark (time stamp) is associated with access right information since only the user with the remote control can display and activate the particular user's bookmarks].

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify Swenson to have the association of a time stamp with access right information and that identification information is allotted to each user group and wherein said content is playable from said stopped position based on said associated access right information for the purpose of setting bookmarks for different users and having parental controls.

However, Swenson and Brown do not explicitly disclose said access right information including information indicating whether a confirmation, by user identification, of an access right to said playing position of the content represented by said time stamp is

necessary, and wherein the playing step determines, based on said associated access right information, whether a confirmation of an access right by user identification is necessary to play said content from said playing position represented by said time stamp, responsive to a request for the playing of said content from said playing position represented by said time stamp; and wherein said information processing apparatus is connectable via said network to another information processing apparatus, and wherein said content is playable by use of the another information processing apparatus which is different from said information processing apparatus.

However, in a similar field of endeavor Markman discloses creating, distributing and using meta data for customizing playback of media content programs. Specifically Markman teaches access right information including information indicating whether a confirmation, by user identification, of an access right to a playing position of a content represented by a time stamp is necessary [page 6, paragraphs 0087-0088; page 8, paragraph 0114; page 6, paragraph 0090, where some bookmarks could contain content for mature audiences, they would contain metadata with instructions for verifying access right (security code or PIN setup); page 6, paragraphs 00094 and 0090-0091, where some bookmarks would not require access right verification, for example: highlights from a football game], and wherein a playing step determines, based on associated access right information, whether a confirmation of an access right by user identification is necessary to play said content from said playing position represented by said time stamp [page 6, paragraphs 0087-0088; page 8, paragraph 0114; page 6, paragraph 0090, where some bookmarks could contain content for

mature audiences, they would contain metadata with instructions for verifying access right (security code or PIN setup); page 6, paragraphs 00094 and 0090-0091, where some bookmarks would not require access right verification, for example: highlights from a football game], responsive to a request for the playing of said content from said playing position represented by said time stamp [page 6, paragraph 0094; page 6, paragraphs 0087-0088; Figure 8].

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify Swenson to have said access right information including information indicating whether a confirmation, by user identification, of an access right to said playing position of the content represented by said time stamp is necessary, and wherein the playing step determines, based on said associated access right information, whether a confirmation of an access right by user identification is necessary to play said content from said playing position represented by said time stamp, responsive to a request for the playing of said content from said playing position represented by said time stamp for the purpose of providing when needed parental control to content that is bookmarked.

However, Swenson, Brown and Markman do not explicitly disclose wherein said information processing apparatus is connectable via said network to another information processing apparatus, and wherein said content is playable by use of the another information processing apparatus which is different from said information processing apparatus.

However, in a similar field of endeavor Heaton discloses set-top control systems sharing access to another set-top control system. Specifically Heaton teaches an information processing apparatus is connectable via a network to another information processing apparatus [column 11, lines 31-42; Figure 6; column 6, lines 54-61], and wherein a content is playable by use of the another information processing apparatus which is different from said information processing apparatus [column 11, lines 31-42; Figure 6; column 6, lines 54-61].

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify Swenson to have wherein said information processing apparatus is connectable via said network to another information processing apparatus, and wherein said content is playable by use of the another information processing apparatus which is different from said information processing apparatus for the purpose of having different devices that can control content and share the content and in that way not limiting the user to one device.

5. Regarding claim 10, Swenson discloses an information management apparatus [column 4, lines 65-all and column 5, lines 1-7, where the server supervises and provides the content to the user], comprising:

management means for managing the provision of predetermined content to an information processing apparatus via a network [column 4, lines 65-all and column 5, lines 1-7, where the server supervises and provides the content to the user and the user sends the position information to the server; column 1, lines 9-19, where the server manages the content over the network]; and

storing means for storing a time stamp [column 5, lines 44-54, where the position may be determined in terms of time position] in association with predetermined identification information [column 1, lines 19-21, where the user needs to login before he or she can obtain access to the services provided by the server] in accordance with a request from the information processing apparatus [column 4, lines 65-all and column 5, lines 1-7, where the user requested for the storing of the position time stamp of the video or multimedia file; column 2, lines 62-all and column 3, line 1, where the request comes from an information processing apparatus], said time stamp representing a playing position of said content provided via said network [column 4, lines 62-all and column 5, lines 1-7; column 5, lines 46-51, where the playing position may be determined in terms of time position; column 1, lines 9-19, where the provision of the content and the playing position is via a network],

wherein said management means is operable to manage the provision of said content [column 4, lines 65-all and column 5, lines 1-7, where the server supervises and provides the content to the user and the user sends the position information to the server] from the playing position represented by said time stamp [column 4, lines 62-all and column 5, lines 1-7; column 5, lines 46-51, where the playing position may be determined in terms of time position].

In addition Swenson discloses a request for the playing of said content from said playing position represented by said time stamp [column 2, lines 28-32, where the user requests to play the video or multimedia file from the saved playing position; column 5, lines 46-51, where the playing position may be determined in terms of time position] and

wherein said playing position represented by said time stamp corresponds to a stopped position whereat at respective user requested that said content be stopped by use of said information processing apparatus[column 4, 65- all and column 5, lines 1-7, where the user requests to stop the content being played; column 5, lines 44-54, where a time stamp gets stored].

However, Swenson does not explicitly disclose the association of a time stamp with access right information. Also, Swenson does not explicitly disclose said access right information including information indicating whether a confirmation, by user identification, of an access right to said playing position of the content represented by said time stamp is necessary, and wherein said management means is operable to determine, based on said associated access right information, whether a confirmation of an access right by user identification is necessary to provide said content from said playing position represented by said time stamp, responsive to a request from the information processing apparatus for the playing of said content from said playing position represented by said time stamp and wherein said information processing apparatus is connectable via said network to another information processing apparatus, and wherein said content is playable from said stopped position based on said associated access right information by use of the another information processing apparatus which is different from said information processing apparatus.

However, in a similar field of endeavor Brown discloses recording and storing bookmarks for stored program material in a computer environment. Specifically Brown teaches the association of a time stamp with access right information [column 15, lines

29-42 and lines 55-63; column 16, lines 20-24, where the bookmarks being associated with the remote control of a user ("a bookmark belongs to a certain encoded remote control"), the bookmark (time stamp) is associated with access right information since only the user with the remote control can display and activate the particular user's bookmarks] and wherein said content is playable from said stopped position based on said associated access right information [column 15, lines 29-42 and lines 55-63; column 16, lines 20-24, where the bookmarks being associated with the remote control of a user ("a bookmark belongs to a certain encoded remote control"), the bookmark (time stamp) is associated with access right information since only the user with the remote control can display and activate the particular user's bookmarks].

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify Swenson to have the association of a time stamp with access right information and wherein said content is playable from said stopped position based on said associated access right information for the purpose of setting bookmarks for different users and having parental controls.

However, Swenson and Brown do not explicitly disclose said access right information including information indicating whether a confirmation, by user identification, of an access right to said playing position of the content represented by said time stamp is necessary, and wherein said management means is operable to determine, based on said associated access right information, whether a confirmation of an access right by user identification is necessary to provide said content from said playing position represented by said time stamp, responsive to a request from the information

processing apparatus for the playing of said content from said playing position represented by said time stamp; and wherein said information processing apparatus is connectable via said network to another information processing apparatus, and wherein said content is playable by use of the another information processing apparatus which is different from said information processing apparatus.

However, in a similar field of endeavor Markman discloses creating, distributing and using meta data for customizing playback of media content programs. Specifically Markman teaches access right information including information indicating whether a confirmation, by user identification, of an access right to a playing position of a content represented by a time stamp is necessary [page 6, paragraphs 0087-0088; page 8, paragraph 0114; page 6, paragraph 0090, where some bookmarks could contain content for mature audiences, they would contain metadata with instructions for verifying access right (security code or PIN setup); page 6, paragraphs 00094 and 0090-0091, where some bookmarks would not require access right verification, for example: highlights from a football game], and wherein said management means is operable to determine, based on associated access right information, whether a confirmation of an access right by user identification is necessary to provide said content from said playing position represented by said time stamp [page 6, paragraphs 0087-0088; page 8, paragraph 0114; page 6, paragraph 0090, where some bookmarks could contain content for mature audiences, they would contain metadata with instructions for verifying access right (security code or PIN setup); page 6, paragraphs 00094 and 0090-0091, where some bookmarks would not require access right

verification, for example: highlights from a football game], responsive to a request from the information processing apparatus for playing of said content from said playing position represented by said time stamp [page 6, paragraph 0094; page 6, paragraphs 0087-0088; Figure 8].

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify Swenson to said access right information including information indicating whether a confirmation, by user identification, of an access right to said playing position of the content represented by said time stamp is necessary, and wherein said management means is operable to determine, based on said associated access right information, whether a confirmation of an access right by user identification is necessary to provide said content from said playing position represented by said time stamp, responsive to a request from the information processing apparatus for the playing of said content from said playing position represented by said time stamp for the purpose of providing when needed parental control to content that is bookmarked.

However, Swenson, Brown and Markman do not explicitly disclose wherein said information processing apparatus is connectable via said network to another information processing apparatus, and wherein said content is playable by use of the another information processing apparatus which is different from said information processing apparatus.

However, in a similar field of endeavor Heaton discloses set-top control systems sharing access to another set-top control system. Specifically Heaton teaches an information processing apparatus is connectable via a network to another information processing

apparatus [column 11, lines 31-42; Figure 6; column 6, lines 54-61], and wherein a content is playable by use of the another information processing apparatus which is different from said information processing apparatus [column 11, lines 31-42; Figure 6; column 6, lines 54-61].

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify Swenson to have wherein said information processing apparatus is connectable via said network to another information processing apparatus, and wherein said content is playable by use of the another information processing apparatus which is different from said information processing apparatus for the purpose of having different devices that can control content and share the content and in that way not limiting the user to one device.

6. Regarding claim 11, Swenson, Brown, Markman and Heaton disclose everything claimed as above (see claim 10), in addition Swenson discloses further comprising:

viewing status information storing means for storing viewing status information representing a viewing status of said content [column 5, lines 44-51, where the time of the position is stored representing the viewing status information of the content] in accordance with a request [column 4, lines 65-all and column 5, lines 1-7, where the user requested for the storing of the position or the time stamp of the video or multimedia file; column 2, lines 62-all and column 3, line 1, where the request comes from an information processing apparatus].

7. Regarding claims 12 and 13, Swenson discloses an information management method [column 4, lines 65-all and column 5, lines 1-7, where the server supervises and

provides the content to the user and the user sends the position information to the server], comprising:

providing predetermined content to an information processing apparatus via a network [column 4, lines 65-all and column 5, lines 1-7, where the system supervises and provides the content that the user receives; column 1, lines 9-19, where the server sends the content over the network]; and

storing a time stamp [column 5, lines 44-46; column 5, lines 46-51 where the position may be determined in terms of time position] in association with predetermined identification information [column 1, lines 19-21, where the user needs to login before he or she can obtain access to the services provided by the server and therefore identify himself] in accordance with a request from the information processing apparatus [column 4, lines 65-all and column 5, lines 1-7, where the user requested for the storing of the position or the time stamp of the video or multimedia file; column 2, lines 62-all and column 3, line 1, where the request comes from an information processing apparatus], said time stamp representing a playing position of said content provided by said providing step [column 4, lines 62-all and column 5, lines 1-7; column 5, lines 46-51 where the playing position may be determined in terms of time position], wherein

said providing step provides said content [column 4, lines 65-all and column 5, lines 1-7, where the server supervises and provides the content to the user and the user sends the position information to the server] from the playing position represented by said time stamp [column 4, lines 62-all and column 5, lines 1-7; column 5, lines 46-51, where the playing position may be represented by time position].

In addition Swenson discloses a request for the playing of said content from said playing position represented by said time stamp [column 2, lines 28-32, where the user requests to play the video or multimedia file from the saved playing position; column 5, lines 46-51, where the playing position may be determined in terms of time position] and wherein said playing position represented by said time stamp corresponds to a stopped position whereat at respective user requested that said content be stopped by use of said information processing apparatus[column 4, 65- all and column 5, lines 1-7, where the user requests to stop the content being played; column 5, lines 44-54, where a time stamp gets stored].

However, Swenson does not explicitly disclose the association of a time stamp with access right information. Also, Swenson does not explicitly disclose said access right information including information indicating whether a confirmation, by user identification, of an access right to said playing position of the content represented by said time stamp is necessary, and wherein the providing step determines, based on said associated access right information, whether a confirmation of an access right by user identification is necessary to play said content from said playing position represented by said time stamp, responsive to a request for the playing of said content from said playing position represented by said time stamp and wherein said information processing apparatus is connectable by way of said network to another information processing apparatus, and wherein said content is playable from said stopped position based on said associated access right information by use of the another information processing apparatus which is different from said information processing apparatus.

However, in a similar field of endeavor Brown discloses recording and storing bookmarks for stored program material in a computer environment. Specifically Brown teaches the association of a time stamp with access right information [column 15, lines 29-42 and lines 55-63; column 16, lines 20-24, where the bookmarks being associated with the remote control of a user ("a bookmark belongs to a certain encoded remote control"), the bookmark (time stamp) is associated with access right information since only the user with the remote control can display and activate the particular user's bookmarks] and wherein said content is playable from said stopped position based on said associated access right information [column 15, lines 29-42 and lines 55-63; column 16, lines 20-24, where the bookmarks being associated with the remote control of a user ("a bookmark belongs to a certain encoded remote control"), the bookmark (time stamp) is associated with access right information since only the user with the remote control can display and activate the particular user's bookmarks].

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify Swenson to have the association of a time stamp with access right information and wherein said content is playable from said stopped position based on said associated access right information for the purpose of setting bookmarks for different users and having parental controls. However, Swenson and Brown do not explicitly disclose said access right information including information indicating whether a confirmation, by user identification, of an access right to said playing position of the content represented by said time stamp is necessary, and wherein the providing step determines, based on said associated

access right information, whether a confirmation of an access right by user identification is necessary to play said content from said playing position represented by said time stamp, responsive to a request for the playing of said content from said playing position represented by said time stamp; and wherein said information processing apparatus is connectable by way of said network to another information processing apparatus, and wherein said content is playable by use of the another information processing apparatus which is different from said information processing apparatus.

However, in a similar field of endeavor Markman discloses creating, distributing and using meta data for customizing playback of media content programs. Specifically Markman teaches access right information including information indicating whether a confirmation, by user identification, of an access right to a playing position of a content represented by a time stamp is necessary [page 6, paragraphs 0087-0088; page 8, paragraph 0114; page 6, paragraph 0090, where some bookmarks could contain content for mature audiences, they would contain metadata with instructions for verifying access right (security code or PIN setup); page 6, paragraphs 00094 and 0090-0091, where some bookmarks would not require access right verification, for example: highlights from a football game], and wherein a providing step determines, based on associated access right information, whether a confirmation of an access right by user identification is necessary to play said content from said playing position represented by said time stamp [page 6, paragraphs 0087-0088; page 8, paragraph 0114; page 6, paragraph 0090, where some bookmarks could contain content for mature audiences, they would contain metadata with instructions for verifying access

right (security code or PIN setup); page 6, paragraphs 00094 and 0090-0091, where some bookmarks would not require access right verification, for example: highlights from a football game], responsive to a request for the playing of said content from said playing position represented by said time stamp [page 6, paragraph 0094; page 6, paragraphs 0087-0088; Figure 8].

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify Swenson to said access right information including information indicating whether a confirmation, by user identification, of an access right to said playing position of the content represented by said time stamp is necessary, and wherein the providing step determines, based on said associated access right information, whether a confirmation of an access right by user identification is necessary to play said content from said playing position represented by said time stamp, responsive to a request for the playing of said content from said playing position represented by said time stamp for the purpose of providing when needed parental control to content that is bookmarked.

However, Swenson, Brown and Markman do not explicitly disclose and wherein said information processing apparatus is connectable by way of said network to another information processing apparatus, and wherein said content is playable by use of the another information processing apparatus which is different from said information processing apparatus.

However, in a similar field of endeavor Heaton discloses set-top control systems sharing access to another set-top control system. Specifically Heaton teaches an information

processing apparatus that connectable by way of a network to another information processing apparatus [column 11, lines 31-42; Figure 6; column 6, lines 54-61], and wherein a content is playable by use of the another information processing apparatus which is different from said information processing apparatus [column 11, lines 31-42; Figure 6; column 6, lines 54-61].

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify Swenson to have and wherein said information processing apparatus is connectable by way of said network to another information processing apparatus, and wherein said content is playable by use of the another information processing apparatus which is different from said information processing apparatus for the purpose of having different devices that can control content and share the content and in that way not limiting the user to one device.

8. Regarding claim 14, Swenson discloses a system for managing information, comprising:

a processor operable to execute instructions [column 2, lines 62-all and column 3, line 1; column 6, line 1-11, where the processor executes the instructions of the invention]; and

instructions [column 6, line 1-11, where the program code has the instructions] for carrying out an information management method [column 4, lines 65-all and column 5, lines 1-7, where the method of management of information is being performed], the information management method including:

providing predetermined content to an information processing apparatus via a network [column 4, lines 65-all and column 5, lines 1-7, where the server supervises and provides the content to the user and the user sends the position information to the server; column 1, lines 9-19, where the server is provides the content over the network]; and

storing a time stamp [column 5, lines 44-51, where the position may be determined in terms of time position] in association with predetermined identification information [column 1, lines 19-21, where the user needs to login before he or she can obtain access to the services provided by the server] in accordance with a request from the information processing apparatus [column 4, lines 65-all and column 5, lines 1-7, where the user requested for the storing of the position or the time stamp of the video or multimedia file, column 2, lines 62-all and column 3, line 1, where the request comes from an information processing apparatus], said time stamp representing a playing position of said content provided by said providing step [column 4, lines 62-all and column 5, lines 1-7; column 5, lines 46-51, where the playing position may be determined in terms of time position], wherein

said providing step provides said content [column 4, lines 65-all and column 5, lines 1-7, where the server supervises and provides the content to the user to play] from the playing position represented by said time stamp [column 4, lines 62-all and column 5, lines 1-7; column 5, lines 46-51, where the playing position may be determined in terms of time position].

In addition Swenson discloses a request from the information processing apparatus for the playing of said content from said playing position represented by said time stamp [column 2, lines 28-32, where the user requests to play the video or multimedia file from the saved playing position; column 5, lines 46-51, where the playing position may be determined in terms of time position] and wherein said playing position represented by said time stamp corresponds to a stopped position whereat at respective user requested that said content be stopped by use of said information processing apparatus[column 4, 65- all and column 5, lines 1-7, where the user requests to stop the content being played; column 5, lines 44-54, where a time stamp gets stored].

However, Swenson does not explicitly to disclose the association of a time stamp with access right information. Also, Swenson does not explicitly disclose said access right information including information indicating whether a confirmation, by user identification, of an access right to said playing position of the content represented by said time stamp is necessary, and wherein the providing step determines, based on said associated access right information, whether a confirmation of an access right by user identification is necessary to play said content from said playing position represented by said time stamp, responsive to a request from the information processing apparatus for the playing of said content from said playing position represented by said time stamp and wherein said information processing apparatus is connectable by way of said network to another information processing apparatus, and wherein said content is playable from said stopped position based on said associated

access right information by use of the another information processing apparatus which is different from said information processing apparatus.

However, in a similar field of endeavor Brown discloses recording and storing bookmarks for stored program material in a computer environment. Specifically Brown teaches the association of a time stamp with access right information [column 15, lines 29-42 and lines 55-63; column 16, lines 20-24, where the bookmarks being associated with the remote control of a user ("a bookmark belongs to a certain encoded remote control"), the bookmark (time stamp) is associated with access right information since only the user with the remote control can display and activate the particular user's bookmarks] and wherein said content is playable from said stopped position based on said associated access right information [column 15, lines 29-42 and lines 55-63; column 16, lines 20-24, where the bookmarks being associated with the remote control of a user ("a bookmark belongs to a certain encoded remote control"), the bookmark (time stamp) is associated with access right information since only the user with the remote control can display and activate the particular user's bookmarks].

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify Swenson to have the association of a time stamp with access right information and wherein said content is playable from said stopped position based on said associated access right information for the purpose of setting bookmarks for different users and having parental controls. However, Swenson and Brown do not explicitly disclose said access right information including information indicating whether a confirmation, by user identification, of an

access right to said playing position of the content represented by said time stamp is necessary, and wherein the providing step determines, based on said associated access right information, whether a confirmation of an access right by user identification is necessary to play said content from said playing position represented by said time stamp, responsive to a request from the information processing apparatus for the playing of said content from said playing position represented by said time stamp; and wherein said information processing apparatus is connectable by way of said network to another information processing apparatus, and wherein said content is playable by use of the another information processing apparatus which is different from said information processing apparatus.

However, in a similar field of endeavor Markman discloses creating, distributing and using meta data for customizing playback of media content programs. Specifically Markman teaches access right information including information indicating whether a confirmation, by user identification, of an access right to a playing position of a content represented by a time stamp is necessary [page 6, paragraphs 0087-0088; page 8, paragraph 0114; page 6, paragraph 0090, where some bookmarks could contain content for mature audiences, they would contain metadata with instructions for verifying access right (security code or PIN setup); page 6, paragraphs 00094 and 0090-0091, where some bookmarks would not require access right verification, for example: highlights from a football game], and wherein a providing step determines, based on associated access right information, whether a confirmation of an access right by user identification is necessary to play said content from said playing position

represented by said time stamp [page 6, paragraphs 0087-0088; page 8, paragraph 0114; page 6, paragraph 0090, where some bookmarks could contain content for mature audiences, they would contain metadata with instructions for verifying access right (security code or PIN setup); page 6, paragraphs 00094 and 0090-0091, where some bookmarks would not require access right verification, for example: highlights from a football game], responsive to a request from an information processing apparatus for the playing of said content from said playing position represented by said time stamp [page 6, paragraph 0094; page 6, paragraphs 0087-0088; Figure 8].

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify Swenson to said access right information including information indicating whether a confirmation, by user identification, of an access right to said playing position of the content represented by said time stamp is necessary, and wherein the providing step determines, based on said associated access right information, whether a confirmation of an access right by user identification is necessary to play said content from said playing position represented by said time stamp, responsive to a request from the information processing apparatus for the playing of said content from said playing position represented by said time stamp for the purpose of providing when needed parental control to content that is bookmarked.

However, Swenson, Brown and Markman do not explicitly disclose and wherein said information processing apparatus is connectable by way of said network to another information processing apparatus, and wherein said content is playable by use of the

another information processing apparatus which is different from said information processing apparatus.

However, in a similar field of endeavor Heaton discloses set-top control systems sharing access to another set-top control system. Specifically Heaton teaches an information processing apparatus that connectable by way of a network to another information processing apparatus [column 11, lines 31-42; Figure 6; column 6, lines 54-61], and wherein a content is playable by use of the another information processing apparatus which is different from said information processing apparatus [column 11, lines 31-42; Figure 6; column 6, lines 54-61].

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify Swenson to have and wherein said information processing apparatus is connectable by way of said network to another information processing apparatus, and wherein said content is playable by use of the another information processing apparatus which is different from said information processing apparatus for the purpose of having different devices that can control content and share the content and in that way not limiting the user to one device.

Response to Arguments

Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 1-4, 6-14 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Conclusion

2. Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire **THREE MONTHS** from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within **TWO MONTHS** of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the **THREE-MONTH** shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than **SIX MONTHS** from the date of this final action.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to **YANET RODRIGUEZ** whose telephone number is (571)270-7257. The examiner can normally be reached on 9:00AM - 5:00 PM Monday - Friday.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Thu V. Nguyen can be reached on (571)272-6967. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/YANET RODRIGUEZ/
Examiner, Art Unit 2452

/DUYEN M DOAN/
Primary Examiner, Art Unit 2452